



Mayor's Office of NEW BOSTONIANS

Thomas M. Menino, Mayor of Boston

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Special points of interest:

- It's easy to get involved in the Boston community.
- Boston is rich with immigrant heritage.
- MONB hosts celebratory events such as the New Bostonians Summit, Boston Community Day and the "We Are Boston" event.

Letter from the Mayor



Boston has always been a place immigrants from around the world can travel to follow their hopes and dreams. I love walking from neighborhood to neighborhood knowing that another culture is just around the corner! We have a responsibility to welcome our friends, neighbors, and recognize that we all

share a common future. In fact, 1 in 4 Bostonians were born outside the US. Together, our residents speak more than 140 languages.

As mayor, I want Boston to be open and accessible to everyone, which is why I created the Office of New Bostonians (ONB).

Each year the ONB works with our community partners and serves up to a thousand people with ESOL classes. Immigrants make up 27% of Boston's population and 31 % of our workforce. It is critical that they have a strong command of the English language in order to secure well paying jobs.

These are very difficult economic times, but it is important that we stay committed to supporting our immigrant communities and preparing our workforce.

Boston has become a great city because throughout history, immigrants have settled here and made outstanding contributions to this city. Working together, we will continue to make Boston a center of diversity and culture, of tolerance and inclusion, and of innovation and forward thinking.

We Are Boston 2008

On December 2, Mayor Thomas M. Menino and ONB hosted another successful "We Are Boston" event for the third year at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. With an attendance of

over 800 guests, new and old Bostonians were able to come together and celebrate Bostonian diversity! The event was a great setting to recognize the remarkable contribu-



tions immigrants have made and the diverse talents that have become integral to the fabric of our city. Famed Bill Russell of the Boston Celtics was also honored with the 2008 New Bostonians

Leadership Award in recognition of his numerous contributions to the city of Boston.

Reverend Cheng Imm Tan along with the honorary co-chair, James Rooney of the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, did a phenomenal job emceeing the entire event. Other honorary co-chairs included Jackie Jenkins-Scott, Jim Scott, and Dr. Keith Motley. This year's event co-chairs were Dr.

Zorica Pantić, Mr. Jarrett Barrios, Reverend Doctor Ray Hammond, and Mr. Robert Haynes.

It is also a great honor to announce all funds raised at the "We Are Boston 2008"



We Are Boston 2008 Event

will support the City's programs for New Bostonians and the English for New Bostonians (ENB) Project, a city-private-community partnership. In addition to Celtics star Bill Russell, Mayor Menino recognized Verizon, Reverend Gloria White Hammond, Dan Thuy Chu, Diego Medina, and Berjeany Charles for assisting New Bostonian communities to participate in the economic, civic, cultural, and social life of the city.

New Bostonians Community Day

Our 9th Annual New Bostonians Community Day (NBCD), which took place on September 23rd, was a beautiful event. With the celebration drawing over 1000 attendees from the diverse neighborhoods across the city, Mayor Menino welcomed the New Bostonian communities at the Boston City Hall Plaza. One of the highlights of the event was The Parade of Flags, representing close to 60 countries around the globe. From multicultural perform-

ances to the participation of 100 community organizations and city departments, NBCD was full of cultural spirit. Along with the dis-

The Parade of Flags, representing close to 60 countries, was the highlight of the celebration at New Bostonians Community Day

tribution of community resources, free immigration consultations, higher education information, and multilingual tours of City Hall were conducted to familiarize guests with the building and its services.



The Parade of Flags 2008

English For New Bostonians

The newly created ENB III funds 23 ESOL programs in the Boston area, 16 of which are established programs and 7 of which are emerging. In addition, ENB III's Multi-Media



Students taking English as a second language

Project partners with 2 community providers in this funding cycle. With the commitment of the Mayor and ENB's major funders, ENB III, in the upcoming year, is continuing its mission to:

1. Provide access to ESOL classes for a minimum of

1,000 immigrants annually

2. Provide capacity-building assistance for 6 to 10 organizations that provide services to the underserved

3. Advocate for increased state, federal and alternative sources of funding to support and sustain ESOL services through a public education and advocacy campaign.



The New Bostonians Summit

MONB makes great strides to address the issues of ESOL, jobs, and education, which are fundamental to our city's progress.

After identifying these issues through a community survey, MONB has united local businesses, funders, immigrant communities, laborers, city officials, universities and mainstream leaders. In addition to dealing with these key issues, the community leaders are developing effective strategic action plans to

move new Bostonians forward. As part of the Summit planning process, teams are being formed with members from the 7 sectors to develop a set of prioritized goals by the year's end. By involving community officials from all sectors, this is an innovative way to increase awareness on these concerns and expand resources that many new Bostonians have been struggling with in isolation. Strategic plans formed by the teams under three

issues will be shared with the Bostonian community and key stakeholders at the fall summit.

"It is not enough to just welcome immigrants to the City of Boston. We must make a collective effort to ensure that immigrants feel welcomed, and include their voices in the City government."
-Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

Immigration Clinics

Free Immigration Clinics are becoming an increasingly helpful and necessary city service for the Boston community. In 2008, over 300 people sought free immigration consultation through this biweekly program. During consultations, constituents are able to meet with our volunteer attorneys in confidence regarding their immigration concerns. These consultations are held

at Boston City Hall every first and third Wednesday of the month from 12PM to 2:00 PM.

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**Volunteer Pro Bono
Immigration Attorneys**

Interpreter Equipment

The Simultaneous Interpreter Equipment is a very valuable tool in facilitating City departments' communication with the diverse linguistic communities. Annually, about 800-1000 individuals benefit from its usage. Since its implementation, this system has been used on a

regular basis by departments within Boston City Hall and on the average, lend to over 50 community-based organizations in Boston annually. The Interpreter Equipment has been used to interpret essential information to the Haitian, Chinese, Russian, and Latino communities.

MONB Publications



- 2008 Guide to City Services
- 2007 Community Resource Directory
- Annual MONB Newsletter
- New Bostonians Happenings Electronic Information

Mayor's Office of New Bostonians

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**Check us out on the Web at
[www.Cityofboston.gov/
newbostonians/](http://www.Cityofboston.gov/newbostonians/)**

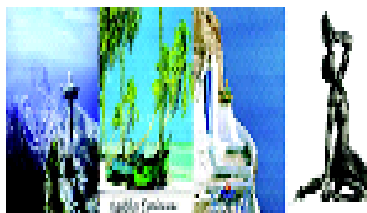
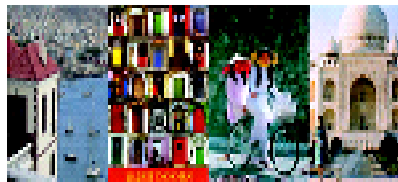
"Now is the Time" Voter Registration Campaign

Beginning in July 2008, this comprehensive multi-lingual and multi-ethnic voter registration campaign, led by MONB, was a coordinated effort between various city agencies and over 30 community-based organizations. With the voter registration made more accessible for non-English speaking residents of Boston, the campaign registered about 5,000 people. In addition, it was also an effort to reach out to and inform non-English speaking communities in Boston of how they can become more civically engaged. Central to the Campaign was a city-wide voter registration effort that took place in August at various locations across the city.

**"Everywhere immigrants have enriched and strengthened the fabric of American life."
-John F. Kennedy**

"Cultural Awareness Series

Implemented in 2004, in collaboration with other City departments, the Cultural Awareness Series (CAS) aims to increase awareness of diversity and appreciate cultural heritages represented in city customs, foods, and languages. In an hour-long presentation, there is an array of cultural performance exhibitions. In 2008, the countries celebrated were Ireland, Brazil, Vietnam, and India. For this upcoming year, CAS plans to present 5 different cultures/countries.



Save The Date

- **New Bostonians Summit:**
September 2009
- **New Bostonians Community Day:**
City Hall Plaza
Wednesday, September 23, 2009
11:00A.M.-2:00P.M.
- **We Are Boston 2009:**
Hynes Convention Center
Tuesday, October 6, 2009
5:45P.M.-9:00P.M.

*For more information, please call
our office at 617.635.2980.*

